

Docket No.: H6808.0040/P040  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Patent Application of:  
Yoshihiro Kimura et al.

Confirmation No.: 2045

Application No.: 10/779,749

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: February 18, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHOD OF DETERMINING THE  
CONCAVITY AND CONVEXITY ON  
SAMPLE SURFACE, AND CHARGED  
PARTICLE BEAM APPARATUS

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
220 20th Street S.  
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 4 of this paper and include attached replacement sheets.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.

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An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 5 of this paper.